

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2866
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2015
Changes in PMGSY Guidelines
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to make changes in the guidelines of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) considering the special circumstances of different States and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government entrusted private agencies for survey of roads under PMGSY and if so, the details of the guidelines given to such agencies;
- (c) whether the survey agencies and the implementing authorities are independent in the selection of roads under PMGSY, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps taken by the Government to introduce more people friendly guidelines for selection and development of roads under PMGSY?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): 'Rural Roads' is a State subject and PradhanMantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY) is a one-time special intervention to provide rural connectivity, by way of a single all-weather road, to the eligible unconnected habitations in the core network. Projects under PradhanMantri Gram SadakYojana (PMGSY) are executed by State Governments through their designated agencies i.e. State Rural Roads Development Agencies (SRRDAs) at the State level and Project Implementation Units (PIUs) at the district level. The programme envisages connecting all eligible unconnected habitations with a population of 500 persons and above (as per 2001 Census) in plain areas and 250 persons and above (as per 2001 Census) in Special Category States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Utrakhand), Tribal (Schedule-V) areas, the Desert Areas (as identified in Desert Development Programme) and in Selected Tribal and Backward Districts (as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs/Planning Commission). The PMGSY permits upgradation (to prescribed standards) of existing rural roads in districts where all the eligible habitations of the designated population size have been provided all weather road connectivity. For most intensive IAP blocks as identified by the Ministry of Home Affairs the unconnected habitations with population 100 and above (as per 2001 census) would be eligible to be covered under PMGSY.

The Government of India has also launched PMGSY-II which envisages consolidation of the existing Rural Road Network to improve its overall efficiency as a provider of transportation services for people, goods and services. It also aims to cover upgradation of existing selected rural roads (Through Routes and Major Rural Links) based on their economic potential and their role in facilitating the growth of rural market centre and rural hubs. Under PMGSY-II an overall target of 50,000 km length has been approved for upgradation, for the 12th five year plan period and the State-wise targets have been communicated to all the States.

The Guidelines of PMGSY and PMGSY-II were made after detailed consultation with the States. Guidelines are also amended from time to time with the approval of the competent authority based on the request from the States/peoples representatives.

(b)&(c): The preparation of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for all roads under PMGSY is the responsibility of the State Government. The State government prepares the DPRs either in-house or assigns this work to consultants as per the prescribed procedures laid down by the Ministry of Rural Development. The selection of roads under PMGSY is done as per the procedures prescribed in the PMGSY guidelines. The consultants are not involved in the selection of roads under PMGSY.

(d) : The PMGSY guidelines provides for, a simple, non formal transect walk along the proposed alignment of the PMGSY Road, to be organized by the Assistant Engineer at the time of preparation of DPRs. The PanchayatPradhan, local patwari, the Junior Engineer, Women Panchayati Raj Institution members and representatives of Women self Help Groups (SHGs) are expected to participate in the transect walk to determine the most suitable alignment, and also to sort out the issues of land availability. Further, the Ministry has recently amended the guidelines in order to accord priority in the selection of PMGSY roads for new connectivity as well as Upgradation leading to the eligible habitations in the Gram Panchayats/villages identified by the Members of Parliament under SansadAdarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY).
